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3/24/04

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Masaki KATOH et al.

Serial No.: 09/928,882

Group Art Unit: 2652

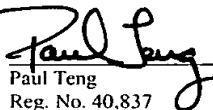
Date Filed: August 13, 2001

Examiner: Tianjie Chen

For: PHASE-CHANGE TYPE OPTICAL INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM

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Sir:

**AMENDMENT SUBMITTED CONCURRENTLY WITH THE ACCOMPANYING
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.114**

This Amendment is submitted concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), in response to the December 16, 2003 final Office Action issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, in connection with the above-identified patent application.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the **Listing of Claims** section which begins on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.